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09/734,421	12/11/2000	Robert A. Brigham	MS# 146956.1/40062.70US01	3573
7590 06/16/2004			EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2171

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Status: 1-42 rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1-42 contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Specifically, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be able to determine the following:

- 1- what is the row pointer and how does it related to the first and second datasets;
- 2- how in Fig. 1, does the "compare module 105" in which manner the comparison is done?
- 3- Fig. 1, 110 as shown "first row pointer is null data must be new " it is unclear for the examiner on how if the first row is null which mean zero or no data is in the first row how the "data must be new", in other words if the there is new data the first row should not be null and if it's null there should be no data?
- 4- in claim 2, what is the original row pointer is it different than the first and second row pointer.

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The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 7, 22, and 35 recite the limitation, " comparing includes detecting whether the first row pointer is null, and if the first row pointer is null, declaring the data to be new data in response to detecting the first row pointer to be null". It is unclear to how the first row pointer can declares the data new if the first row pointer is null.

Claims 8,23, and 36, recite the limitation, " comparing includes detecting whether the second row pointer is null, and if the second row pointer is null, declaring the data to be deleted data in response to detecting the second row pointer to be null". It is unclear to the Examiner how the second row pointer can declare the data deleted if the second row pointer is null.

The claimed invention has been examined as best as the Examiner has been able to ascertain.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bauer et al.
(Bauer hereinafter) (US Patent No. 5,870,759).

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1. Regarding Claims 1, 16, and 31, Bauer discloses a method, a computer program product, and a system of tracking data through a multi-tier computing architecture (see column 26, lines 38-54, Bauer), the method comprising:

initializing a first row pointer of a dataset with data from a databases (see column 9, lines 36-41, Bauer);

placing changes to the data in a second row pointer of the dataset (see column 9, lines 41-43, Bauer);

comparing the first and second row pointers (see column 9, lines 43-45, Bauer); and
declaring a state of the data in response to comparing the first and second row pointers (see column 9, lines 46-47, Bauer).

2. Regarding Claims 2, and 17, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

initializing includes initializing an original row pointer of a dataset with data from a database (see column 11, lines 31-35, Bauer).

3. Regarding Claim 3, Bauer discloses a method, wherein:

placing includes placing changes to the data in a current row pointer of the dataset (see column 9, lines 60-64, Bauer).

4. Regarding Claims 4, and 19, Bauer discloses a method, wherein:

comparing includes comparing the original row pointer to the current row pointer to determine the state of the data (see column 10, lines 20-23, Bauer).

5. Regarding Claims 5, 20, and 33, Bauer discloses a method, further comprising.

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receiving a request from a client computing system for data from a database (see column 6, lines 61-63, Bauer), wherein:

initializing includes initializing a first row pointer of a dataset with the data requested by the client computing system in response to the request by the client computing system (see column 9, lines 36-41, Bauer).

6. Regarding Claims 6, 21, and 34, Bauer discloses a method further comprising:

sending the initialized dataset to the client computing system (see column 6, lines 63-67, Bauer); wherein

placing changes includes placing changes to the data by the client computing system in a second row pointer of the dataset (see column 7, lines 45-49, Bauer); and

receiving the dataset with the changes (see column 7, lines 49-53, Bauer).

7. Regarding Claims 7, 22, 35 Bauer discloses a method wherein:

comparing includes detecting whether the first row pointer is null, and if the first row pointer is null, declaring the data to be new data in response to detecting the first row pointer to be null (to the best Examiner ascertain see column 10, lines 60-65, Bauer).

8. Regarding Claims 8, 23, and 36, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

comparing includes detecting whether the second row pointer is null, and if the second row pointer is null, declaring the data to be deleted data in response to detecting the second row pointer to be null (to the best Examiner ascertain see column 10, 11, lines 66-67, 1-2 respectively, Bauer).

9. Regarding Claims 9, 10, 24, 25, and 37, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

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comparing includes detecting whether the first and second row pointers are equal or not equal, and if the first and second row pointers are equal or not equal, declaring the data to be original data in response to detecting the first and second row pointer to be equal or not equal (see column 11, lines 3-11, Bauer).

10. Regarding Claims 11, 26, and 38, Bauer discloses a method further comprising:

committing the data in the second row pointer (see column 15, lines 47-52, Bauer).

11. Regarding Claims 12, 27, and 39, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

committing includes accepting, rejecting, or merging the data (see column 19, 20, lines 43—47, 43-47, respectively, Bauer).

12. Regarding claims 13, 14, 28, 29, 40, and 41, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

merging includes merging a plurality of datasets from a plurality of client computing systems, merging includes matching locally unique identifiers between rows of the plurality of datasets (see Table I, Bauer).

13. Regarding Claims 15, 30, and 42, Bauer discloses a method wherein:

committing includes updating the database with the data in the second row pointer in response to detecting the first and second row pointers to not be equal (see column 11, lines 3-11, Bauer).

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Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to: Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (703) 305-4881. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-1436. Any response to this office action should be mailed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. Or telefax at phone number (703) 872-9306890. For formal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT". Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

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